

RemarksElection

On page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner reformulates the prior restriction. In this new version of the Restriction it is asserted that the compound claims 1-10 and 15 (group I) are related to both the electrochemical cell claims 11 and 13-15 (group II), and the capacitor claim 12 (group III) as product and process of use. However, this is clearly incorrect as none of claims 11-15 are process claims.

The claims can not be related in the manner alleged in the Restriction as there are no process claims pending. Withdrawal of the Restriction is again respectfully requested.

Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the definitions of R<sup>7</sup> to R<sup>10</sup>. Claims 7 and 9 have been amended to be consistent with the amendments to claim 1.

Claim 8 has been amended to remove superficial language. Claim 16 has been changed to independent form and the dependency of claim 17 has been changed accordingly. Support for new claim 18 can be found, for example, in the examples.

Claim Rejection under Sections 112, second

Claims 1-10 and 15 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. It is believed that the amendments render the rejection moot.

Furthermore, it is clearly indicated in the claims that, the carboxyl, dicarboxyl, oxysulfonyl or oxycarbonyl structures are part of the aromatic or aliphatic ring or chain radical

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection under Sections 102 (a)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as allegedly anticipated by JP-2000-254513 (September 19, 2000) and Kuhn et al. (2001)

Attached is a certified translation of the priority document to perfect applicants' claim of priority under 35 U.S.C. section 119. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claim Rejections under Section 102 (b)

Claims 1- 4 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by JP-11-209583, JP 2000-17145 and JP 11-171981.

JP 11-209583 concerns an epoxy resin composition used for laminates and useful for printed circuit boards. The resin composition comprises an epoxy resin, a polyamine and a specific onium borate. JP 2000-17145 relates a thermosetting resin composition for use in molded products. The resin comprises a novolak type phenolic resin, hexamethylenetetramine and a specific onium borate.

JP11-171981 discloses a resin composition consisting of (A) an epoxy resin, (B) a curing agent and (C) an onium borate.

The compositions of JP-11-209583, JP 2000-17145 and JP 11-171981 all relate to resin compositions. They do not teach or suggest ionic liquids. Furthermore, these references do not disclose or suggest onium borates according to applicants invention.

The ionic liquids of the present invention are suitable as solvents in organic synthesis and in electrochemical cells. They do not corrode and have been found to passivate the aluminum current collector usually used in electrochemical cells, enabling the cycle stability to be increased.

Thus, the rejection under section 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under Section 103 (a)

Claims 6,16 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over either Kuhn, et al. or JP 2000-254513, taken in combination with either JP-11-209583 or JP 11-171981.

As stated above, a certified translation of the priority document to perfect applicants' claim of priority under 35 U.S.C. section 119 is attached. The disclosure of JP'583 and JP '981 are also discussed above. In view of the above remarks withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. However, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any unresolved matters.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

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